

Brethren Evangelist.

"LET US GO ON UNTO PERFECTION."

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For terms, instruction, etc., see page 16.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

It is time that we should hear from our Mission Board and Missionaries. Are they not doing anything? This very important branch of church work should not be neglected.

It was our intention to bring out this issue of the EVANGELIST in a new dress, but have not been able to complete our arrangements. To give us ample time to make the change, we announce new appearance of the paper for the first week in the new year.

Work on the *Annual* is progressing. The book will be similar to those issued in former years and will contain the proceedings of the National and District Conferences, the list of ministers of the Brethren church and other matter of information.

We call special attention to the article by brother McFaden on "*Channels for Tract Distribution*." Have you ever thought how easily such work as he outlines can be done? It requires very little effort and still less money to do a vast amount of good. Try it.

All our conferences should take steps toward having their minutes printed in pamphlet form. To publish the proceedings of all the District Conferences together with the National Conference in one book, is not the proper thing to do and not our idea of what a Church Annual or Almanac should be. By another year we hope to issue an almanac or church year book. Every family in the church should have such a work.

In our next issue will be found an outline or synopsis of our PROSPECTUS for the year 1895. This will give our readers an idea of what there is in store for them. We ask a careful perusal of the prospectus. It will set forth the aims and objects

of the paper, its various departments and the subjects upon which we expect contributions from our best writers. It will be printed in pamphlet form for distribution among our people.

We acknowledge the receipt of a number of original hymns, also from twenty to twenty-five original tunes, for the new hymn book. Selected tunes and hymns are also coming in, and there seems to be no difficulty in gathering material for the work. We promise our people that this book shall not be "hurried." All manuscript is to be examined by competent musicians, and the greatest care is to be exercised in the choice of every hymn and tune. Manuscript is solicited.

There are not a few who need the following words of advice taken from an *exchange*:

"Your place is in your own church. Your pastor may not be as eloquent as Chrysostom, but no matter. He is your pastor, and has a right to expect your constant sympathy and support. Those who are running about from church to church with itching ears, eager for the most brilliant sermon, are mere curiosity hunters, and have long since ceased to be true worshipers. The itching ear makes the carping critic—an individual whose vital piety has about all oozed away."

It is well that people should be closely attached to their church and pastor, but is there not danger of placing them above Christ? It is faith in *Christ* that unites people and makes them independent of any one preacher. When Dr. Swing, of Chicago, died not long ago, the trustees of his congregation, met and decided to disband, as it was not likely that they could get a minister of the same faith and ability with Dr. Swing. And now it is stated that Dr. Talmage resigned the pastorate of the Brooklyn tabernacle, and the president of the Board of Trustees has announced that they have decided not to attempt to build a new church. The church that disbands because the preacher dies, must have very little of that vital element known as the "truth as it is in Jesus." And shall the famous Brooklyn Tabernacle now cease to be, because the pastor has resigned? Surely we should trust less in man and more in God.

The real good, earnest, faithful church members are not as numerous as they ought to be or as one should wish. Here is a por-

trait, from an *exchange*, of what may truthfully be called a good church member.

"He believes in his church. He loves it. He gives himself to it. He prays for it and speaks kindly of it. He does not put a stumbling block in the way of his brethren and avoids those things which grieve or cause them to offend. He is charitable in his judgments and promotes peace. He feels it a duty to build up his own congregation. He cheers his brethren and his pastor by regular attendance upon the public service. He helps the pastor, and does not leave him to preach to empty pews with an aching heart, or to carry on the prayer-meeting alone. It is no slight excuse that keeps him from the Lord's Supper. The appointments of his church and the memory of his Saviour are sacred to him. He does not trifle with either. He does not long continue derelict in duty to the church, so as to become liable to discipline. He keeps his covenant solemnly made with his church when he entered its fellowship. God bless our good members, old and young, and constantly increase their number! Let lively stones be laid into the spiritual temple."

"THE DEVIL SHOUTED."

Luther writes of a great Santanic anniversary at which his emissaries were convened to report the results of their several missions. "I let loose the wild beast of the desert," said one, "on a caravan of Christians; and their bones are now bleaching on the sand." "What of that?" said the devil; "their souls were all saved." "I drove the east wind," said another, "against a ship freighted with Christians; and they were all drowned." "What of that?" said the devil; "their souls were all saved." "For ten years, I tried to get a single Christian asleep," said the third; "and I succeeded, and I left him so." Then the devil shouted, and the night stars of hell sang for joy.

Satan puts a high estimate upon sleepy professing Christians. One put thoroughly to sleep is worth ten years' effort. Beware of the Santanic opiates, by whomsoever administered.—*Standard*.

A prominent business man in New York state gives away four copies of the New Testament each day—the cost of the four cigars he used to smoke each day.—*Kenbe-
nee Banner*.